

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-3 (cancelled).

4. (currently amended) A device for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising:

a collecting element having a cover which is rotatable around a stationary stator;

the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged relative to the cover such that the magnet's magnetic field attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles that are located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

a discarding device arranged on a circumferential surface of the cover, the cover being designed as a non-magnetic hollow cylinder that conveys the incoming carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The device according to claim 3 wherein a groove on the cover running in an axial direction is provided as said discarding device.~~

5. (currently amended) A device for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising:

a collecting element having a cover which is rotatable around a stationary stator;

the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged relative to the cover such that the magnet's magnetic field attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles that are located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

a surface of the cover comprises at least one screw-thread-like spiral which, given rotation of the cover, moves the carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover;

a discarding device arranged on a circumferential surface of the cover, the cover being designed as a non-magnetic hollow cylinder that conveys the incoming carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The device according to claim 3 wherein an elevation on the cover running in an axial direction of the cover is provided as said discarding device.~~

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A device for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising:

a collecting element having a cover which is rotatable around a stationary stator;

the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged relative to the cover such that the magnet's magnetic field attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles that are located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

a surface of the cover comprises at least one screw-thread-like spiral which, given rotation of the cover, moves the carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The device according to claim 1 wherein a first spiral according to a type of right-handed thread is arranged on the cover, and a second spiral according to a type of left-handed thread is arranged on the cover, a discarding device being arranged in an area in which the first spiral and the second spiral meet.~~

8-11 (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A device for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising:

a collecting element having a cover which is rotatable around a stationary stator;

the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged relative to the cover such that the magnet's magnetic field attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles that are located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

a surface of the cover comprises at least one screw-thread-like spiral which, given rotation of the cover, moves the carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The device according to claim 1 wherein~~ at least one of a direct voltage and an alternating voltage is acting along the cover whose electrical field effects the toner particles.

13. (original) The device according to claim 12 wherein the direct voltage is overlaid by the alternating voltage.

14. (currently amended) A device for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising:

a collecting element having a cover which is rotatable around a stationary stator;

the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged relative to the cover such that the magnet's magnetic field attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles that are located on a carrier a distance of an air gap;

a surface of the cover comprises at least one screw-thread-like spiral which, given rotation of the cover, moves the carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The device according to claim 1 wherein~~ the cover is being coated with anti-adhesive material in order to ease removal of deposited toner particles.

15-16 (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A device for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising:

a collecting element having a cover which is rotatable around a stationary stator;

the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged relative to the cover such that the magnet's magnetic field attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles that are located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

a surface of the cover comprises at least one screw-thread-like spiral which, given rotation of the cover, moves the carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover;

the device being a developer station in a printer or copier; and

~~The device according to claim 16 wherein the cover is being arranged at a distance of an air gap near a surface of an applicator roller coated with a mixture made of toner particles and magnetizable carrier particles.~~

18. (currently amended) A device for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising:

a collecting element having a cover which is rotatable around a stationary stator;

the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged relative to the cover such that the magnet's magnetic field attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles that are located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

a surface of the cover comprises at least one screw-thread-like spiral which, given rotation of the cover, moves the carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The device according to claim 1 wherein the cover is being arranged opposite an intermediate carrier ribbon as said carrier which carries a mixture made of toner particles and magnetizable carrier particles, and where ~~an~~ said air gap exists between the cover and the mixture.~~

19-22 (cancelled)

23. (currently amended) A method for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising the steps of:

rotating a cover of a collecting element around a stationary stator, and wherein the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged approximately radial to the cover and a magnetic field which attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

providing a surface of the cover with at least one screw-thread like spiral so that, given rotation of the cover, the carrier particles move in an axial direction relative to the cover;

a discarding device being arranged on a circumferential surface of the cover designed as a non-magnetic hollow cylinder that conveys incoming carrier particles in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The method according to claim 21 wherein a first spiral according to a type of right-handed thread is being arranged on the cover, and a second spiral according to a type of left-handed thread is being arranged on the cover, and wherein the discarding device is being arranged in an area in which the first spiral and the second spiral meet.~~

24-27 (cancelled).

28. (currently amended) A method for lifting magnetizable carrier particles, comprising the steps of:

rotating a cover of a collecting element around a stationary stator, and wherein the stator comprises at least one magnet having a pole arranged approximately radial to the cover and a magnetic field which attracts ferromagnetic carrier particles located on a carrier at a distance of an air gap;

providing a surface of the cover with at least one screw-thread like spiral so that, given rotation of the cover, the carrier particles move in an axial direction relative to the cover; and

~~The method according to claim 19 wherein the cover is being arranged opposite an intermediate carrier ribbon as said carrier which carries a mixture made of toner particles and magnetizable carrier particles, ~~an~~ said air gap being provided between the cover and the mixture.~~

29-30 (cancelled).